

# Learning is exciting at Wheatfields Primary!

**Reception** This week the children have been exploring the sounds ch, ng, th & ai during our phonics sessions. They have been trying to learn the word digraph which means when two letters make a sound together. It would be wonderful if you could support your child in practising these sounds at home and perhaps even making your own words that use these sounds, we'd love to see any of your fabulous learning on tapestry. Additionally, we have been thinking about subtraction this week in EYFS using different objects from around the classroom to practise our taking away skills. At home you could use cutlery, toys or even shoes to help you practise your taking away. As we move into next week the children will be exploring the role of police officers in our community. We will be thinking about the equipment they need to carry, what their roles are, and how they help people in our local community. So far this term the children have been so excited about different people who help in our community and we are excited to keep the learning going. Many Thanks, The EYFS Team

**Year 1** This week in Year 1 the children have been using their addition skills to add numbers across 10 using ten frames and counters. The children have also been looking at their number bonds to 10 and 20. To help your children with their learning and knowing the number bonds fluently please could you check out this great game that we have found (<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>). In English this week the children have been authors. They have been writing their adapted story of The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch that they are going to be sending to Captain Morgan. The children have been learning to use 'red edit' pens to make their sentences better and making sure they have capital and full stops. In History this week the children have been learning about the famous lighthouse keeper Grace Darling and looking at old paintings to see what life was like in the Victorian times. The children are continuing to code and follow simple instructions using the Beebots. Next week, the children will be looking at Islam and prayer practised within their faith. The children will be moving on to writing instructions in English. They are subtracting and crossing tens in Maths next week. We are looking forward to seeing some of you for the Lighthouse Picnic on Friday the 7th February.

**Year 2** This week in Maths, we have been using coins to find totals. We have reminded the children that if they have different coins, then they must start counting the highest value coins first and then the lower value coins. They have been using their knowledge of counting in 10s, 2s and 5s to help them count quantities of 10p, 5p and 2p coins and we have been trying to use what we know of counting in 2s to help us count 20p coins. Next week, we will continue using money, finding different values and totals and giving change from an amount. Please continue to give your child access to Mathletics each week. The Home Learning activities set will really help to consolidate the Maths skills that we teach them in class. This week in English, we have been looking at the story 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. We have been exploring the two main characters by using 'Think, Say and Feel' bubbles to make inferences about how the characters are feeling and thinking throughout the story. We have also made lost posters for the penguin and we have acted and retold the story in small groups. Next week, we will be planning our on adventure story based on Lost and Found. We will learn how to write excellent descriptions of characters and settings and continuing to practise our handwriting and sentence structure. In our topic, we have been comparing life in the Arctic and Antarctica and we are now learning about how animals adapt to living in such cold places.

**Year 3** "What a great week it's been," exclaimed Mrs Probert. "I quite agree," replied Mrs Gray Thomas. "Can you guess what we've been doing in English?" asked Mrs Burnett. Yes, that's right, inverted commas or speech marks or quotation marks. This is all in preparation for writing our own story in the coming weeks. Maths has been fun learning about multiplicands, multipliers and products. Why not ask your children to explain what they are! To help find the answers to multiplication and division problems we've been drawing arrays, using the bar method and number strings. In Science we've carried out experiments to discover which would be the best material for curtains in a baby's room, to block out all the light. There were some interesting findings. We've been learning about algorithms and debugging in Computing too.

**Year 4** Year 4 have been preparing key skills to apply to their own Viking stories in English. We have revisited how to correctly punctuate and layout speech and using fronted adverbials in sentences. We have also read an example story to help us with our own story planning and organisation. We are looking forward to writing the stories next week. In Maths, we have started learning about division with practical equipment and models to support our understanding. We have worked on dividing 2-digit numbers by a 1-digit number with exchanges and remainders and will progress onto 3-digit numbers and learning a written method when we are ready. In Science, we began learning about friction and explored how friction changes with different materials.

**Year 5** Deepening our understanding, deepening our understanding, deepening our understanding. This is the theme in Year 5. This week we have continued to... deepen our understanding of number by looking at 10 times as many and 100 times as many. In English we have looked at the difference between how and why questions; there is a difference! I wonder if the children can tell you (remember cake!)? In PE it was down to us teachers to put our skills to the test in front of Mr Puckey to see how much we had learnt about hockey! In Art we have continued to learn about 1 point perspective and the children have really taken to the concept. Next week we are looking forward to writing the introduction to our story and deepening our understanding in Maths!

**Year 6** This week Year Six have been planning their own narratives based upon the text they are studying called 'The Watertower.' As well as this, they have been doing plenty of guided reading based on this text along with 'The Pit and the Pendulum' – a short story by Edgar Allan Poe. Continuing their topic work on Earth and Space, both classes have focused on the geography of our planet, with specific reference to the equator, lines of latitude and longitude and how our climate affects our landscape. Finally, Class 14 performed their amazing class assembly in front of years 3 to 6 on Wednesday this week, which was brilliant, especially as it showed exactly what they could do independently of me (Mr. Streeter), as they organised it all!

**Music** The word of the week is 'improvise' which means to make something up. Year 3 had a go at improvising their own reggae riffs using rhythm, voice and notes they have learnt on the recorder. We noticed a big improvement in the sound quality of our recorder playing this week! In Year 4 we listened to a Waltz by Chopin and had a go at playing notes on the keyboard in the bass clef. In Year 5 we continued to improvise patterns on the djembe and found it a little easier this week. We are beginning to play longer African rhythms on the djembe drum and adding other instruments such as agogos and dun duns. In Year 6 we analysed Mercury from Holst's Planet Suite. We played the main motif on the recorder and improvised motifs of our own.